

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

10901 Gold Center Drive, 4th Floor
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(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 445-0300



November 10, 2011

Donna Mooney, Acting City Attorney
City of Alameda
2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Room 280
Alameda, CA 94501

RE: EMSA Case Closure

Dear Ms. Mooney:

This letter is to notify you that the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) has completed its investigation into the complaints submitted to EMSA, detailing alleged violations of Health and Safety Code section 1798.200, against several paramedics working within the Alameda City Fire Department.

Each complaint allegation was investigated with the following findings:

Case #11-0165 (Paramedic Robert Petersen)

Allegation #1: Alameda City Fire paramedic was unable to properly resuscitate a patient due to equipment failure.

Finding: No merit. There was no on-scene equipment failure. A request for replacement batteries was made after the completion of the call, while at the hospital.

Allegation #2: County protocols required this patient to be taken to a Cardiac or Trauma Center.

Finding: No merit. The patient was taken to the closest, most appropriate hospital for his condition (under CPR).

Case #11-0166 (Paramedic Justin Hearn)

Allegation: Paramedic not on scene prepared an incident report in an effort to cover for a paramedic working in violation of his probation.

Finding: No merit. Appropriate Alameda City fire personnel completed the internal incident report.

Case #11-0167 (Paramedic Donald Pemberton)

Allegation #1: Alameda City Fire paramedic was unable to properly resuscitate a patient due to equipment failure.

Finding: No merit. There was no evidence of any on scene equipment failure. A request for replacement batteries was made after the completion of the call, while at the hospital.

Allegation #2: County protocols require patient to be taken to a Cardiac or Trauma Center.

Finding: No merit. The patient was taken to the closest, most appropriate hospital for his condition (under CPR).

Case #11-0168 (Paramedic Adam Sisemore)

Allegation: Paramedic staffed a paramedic unit with an EMT while on probation, in violation of his probation terms.

Finding: No merit. Paramedic was on probation, however, probation terms did not preclude him from his normal paramedic duties.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 322-4336 extension 450, or Special Investigator Kymberly Mitchell at (707) 718-6220.

Respectfully,



Michael Smith
Chief of Enforcement

cc Greg Fox, Bertrand, Fox & Elliot
Michael D'Orazi, Interim Fire Chief,